

Changes to the Specification

The second paragraph in column 2 which begins in line 25 and ends at line 36 is to be rewritten as indicated below (marked according to 37 CFR 1.173).

Despite the disadvantages of [mesophyllic]mesophilic bacteria, [mesophyllic]mesophilic bacteria are preferable in relation to the dewatering of digested sludge. [Mesophyllic]Mesophilic bacteria naturally secrete a polysaccharide which acts as a tackifier providing a chemical mechanism of floc formation. This chemical mechanism is an aid to traditional cationic polyacrylamides to begin the dewatering process. However, thermophilic bacteria do not secrete a tackifying polysaccharide. Furthermore, thermophilic bacteria naturally repel each other. This repelling nature of thermophilic bacteria makes the dewatering of sludge from the thermophilic digestion process expensive and difficult.

These amendments to the specification, as required by the Examiner, provide no new matter to the specification.